BY J. L. PENNINGTON & CO.

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DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

MONDAY, JAN. 16, 1865.

WATCH FOR THE CROSS MARK.

To save our subscribers the trouble of making enquires by letter, we shall hereafter make a cross mark on the margin of the paper when the time paid for is about to expire, and if not promptly renewed the paper will be stopped. Watch for the cross mark and send on money to renew in time.

CHANGE OF TERMS.

In view of the increased and still increasing prices of everything connected with the publication business, we find ourselves compelled to make a corresponding change in the subscription price of our paper, which will, on and after Monday, January 16th, be as follows:

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We make no apology for this advance: the rapid depreciation of the currency is a fact well known to all, and we must advance our terms or cease to print.

These advanced rates will go into effect on and after Monday next, the 16th instant. Jan 14, 1865.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SENATE CHAMBER,
RALEIGH, Dec. 22d, 1864.

Robt. P. Dick, Esq.:

DEAR SIR:—The undersigned, members of the Senate, respectfully request that you will furnish for publication a copy of the able and eloquent speech made by you in the Senate, on Tuesday last, upon the subject of negotiations for an honorable peace.

With high esteem,
Your ob't. servants,
R. W. LASSITER,
W. D. JONES,
E. L. MANN,
M. F. ARENDELL,
E. J. BLOUNT,
H. ADAMS,
ISAAC N. SANDERS,
THOS. D. SNEAD.

GREENSBORO', Jan'y. 5th, 1865.

Messrs. R. W. Lassiter, and others:

GENTLEMEN:—I have received your kind letter of the 23d ult., requesting me to furnish for publication a copy of the speech which I delivered in the Senate upon the subject of negotiations for an honorable peace. I thank you for this evidence of your confidence and esteem, and I herewith enclose a copy of the speech requested.

With feelings of the warmest friendship for each of you, I am most truly, your ob't. serv't.,
ROBT. P. DICK.

Speech of ROBT. P. DICK, *Esq., of Guilford, made in the Senate on the 20th day of December*, 1864, *upon a motion to take up and consider Mr. Pool's resolutions concerning negotiations for peace.*

MR. SPEAKER:—I represent as enlightened and as patriotic a constituency as any Senator upon this floor. I know the opinions and feelings of my people upon all great public questions, and I desire faithfully and honestly to represent them. They have at all times and under all circumstances, given the highest evidences of their patriotism. They earnestly endeavored to avert the calamities and disasters which *disunion* brought upon their beloved country, and since she has been passing through the fiery ordeal they have stood firmly and bravely beside her; and sacrificed their fortunes and their children upon her altars. They look with sorrowful regret upon the follies and misfortunes of the past—but they still hope that wise counsels and unfaltering courage may yet rescue the country from impending ruin. As the representative of such a people, I hope that I may have the wisdom and courage faithfully and fearlessly to discharge my duty.

At a time like this, when the peace, prosperity, and happiness of the country are gone, when her liberty is in danger, and her very existence among the nations of the earth is seriously threatened, every citizen has important duties to perform.

The soldier in the camp, on the march, in the trenches, and in the battle's stern array, while he endures hardships, privations, sufferings and death, is in the line of duty, and the country thanks and honors him that he has so nobly and heroically met every peril and every trial.

The military officer who uses every effort to provide for the health and comfort of his men, who treats them with becoming respect and kindness, who does not rashly expose them to needless dangers, and in the fiercest hour of the terrible conflict sustains and cheers them by his presence and example, fulfils well his important trust, and deserves and receives the admiration and gratitude of his countrymen.

The private citizen, who with strict economy preserves his resources, with constant labor increases his supplies, with a generous liberality furnishes his surplus to the government and his fellow-citizens, and forgets not an open handed charity to the poor, is a blessing to his country, and he will surely have his reward. But there are no positions of trust and confidence of such weighty responsibility as those of the statesman and legislator. They hold in their hands the destinies of the country.—They should be cool and firm in the midst of victory or disaster—they should be uninfluenced by passion and prejudice, and unswayed by either the threats or blandishments of power. They ought to learn wisdom from the lessons of the past and the teachings of the present, and weigh with calm judgment the solemn probabilities of the future. They should so act as to preserve the Constitution and laws sacred and inviolable; observe with strict fidelity the rights of the citizen, and guard with sleepless vigilance the public liberty. In a word, they should throw away all mean and selfish ambition, and with a pure and elevated patriotism strive to promote the public good, and secure the honor, prosperity, and happiness of their country.

In this time of our country's fearful trial and agony, she calls loudly for such statesmen and legislators, and I trust in God, that the Legislature of North-Carolina may have the wisdom and courage to meet aright the responsibilities of this trying hour. I sincerely believe that the destinies of the country and the hopes of human liberty are now dependent upon the action of the statesmen of this land. If they are equal to their important trust, then all things may yet be well; but if from any cause they prove recreant to their solemn duties, then every thing which we hold dear will be gone, and the splendid progress of our Christian civilization will be thrown backward for a century. There are certainly times which try men's souls, and they are upon us now. Our country is surrounded by numerous and imminent dangers, and the great and all-absorbing question that addresses itself to the patriot's heart is "how are they to be averted?" Some politicians urged on by malignant fanaticism and insatiable hatred, reply, *by blood*. In their estimation the war must still roll its desolating tides over wasted fields, sacked cities, ruined homes and broken hearts. The worst passions of our nature must be lashed into fury—the vilest predjudices engendered, and all the kind and benevolent feelings which elevate the Christian and civilized man above the savage, must be crushed in our bosoms, for "peace on earth and good will to man," is now the voice of disloyalty and treason! Such is not the spirit of my patriotism. I love my country—the beautiful South—with the fondest and deepest devotion. It is the place of my birth, of my home, and my kindred—the shrine of my sweetest affections and holiest memories; I love it as the ancient Jew loved Jerusalem, and most ardently do I desire to see "peace within her walls and prosperity within her palaces" and homes. I love not war with its "confused noise and garments rolled in blood." The shouts of victory and the glories of triumph never make me forget the carnage of the battle-field, the groans of the wounded and dying, and the fearful agony of the broken-hearted ones at home. War has always been the great desolater of the earth and the destroyer of human joys, hopes and affections. I love peace, heaven-born peace.—It was the primal, sinless state of man. It was the "good tidings" which the angels carried to the watching shepherds of Bethlehem. The "Prince of Peace" is one of the most beautiful and endearing names of our Saviour—and "good will to man," is one of the first and holiest tenets of our Christian faith. Peace always brings a bountiful store of blessings. It warms, nourishes and invigorates all the sweet affections and tender sympathies of our nature—it nerves the arm of honest industry—kindles the fires of intellect and genius—rears the splendid marts of trade and commerce, and the busy workshops of art—builds the school-house, the hospital of charity, and the Church of God—supplies the proud mansions of the wealthy and great with luxury and ease—and fills the humble homes of the poor with contentment and plenty, and with honest and joyous hearts. Peace alone can make a nation truly great, and a people prosperous and happy. The chief object of the patriotic statesman should always be to secure the peace of his country, when this can be done with honor. The great question is now before us—how can we obtain peace with honor for our suffering country?

There are but two ways in which this war can be ended. The one is to "fight it out" until we conquer a peace, or we meet the dread alternative, be conquered to subjugation. The other is by wise and prudent negotiations honestly and earnestly made. *The one* proposes to settle the political differences of the two nations by the sword and bayonet on the bloody arena of the battle field, where the wildest and fiercest passions of the heart are roused into madness, and the calm voice of judgment is silenced. *The other* proposes to use the weapons of reason and argument in the council chamber, where the wise, good, and patriotic sages of the land have met together in a spirit of mutual conciliation, concession and compromise, to compose and reconcile differences of opinion, to obliterate sectional animosities and predjudices, to do even-handed justice, to promote the general good, and thus secure a *permanent* and *honorable* peace which will be hailed with gladness by the suffering millions of both sections of the country.

I propose to discuss these two important propositions separately, and present my views fairly and candidly, for the consideration of the Senate. In the first place, I will suppose that it is in our power to conquer a peace before the remaining resources of the country are much further exhausted. How long would such a peace last? If we drive Grant and his beleaguering hosts from our capital—if we arrest Sherman in his triumphal march through Georgia—if we send them both beyond the Potomac and Ohio with broken legions and trailing banners—if we enter their territory and waste their fields, burn their cities and turn their women and children as houseless and homeless refugees upon the cold charities of the world—would this success of conquest give us a permanent peace? The North are a proud and stubborn people. They would feel that their honor and existence were at stake, and with their accustomed energy they would soon collect together the elements of their power and hurl their exasperated legions across the border. The sword can never bring peace to a divided people. This war differs greatly from European conflicts. There kings and potentates fight about national punctilios and questions affecting the "balance of power." The conflict is soon ended by the interference of neutral powers. The different people never become exasperated with each other, and the great popular heart is but little interested in the controversy. But this war is a great civil strife. We were once the same nation, and we are still the same Anglo-American people. We have the same form of government and systems of laws—we have the same noble ancestry—the same glorious history—with one exception, the same institutions—we speak the same language—read the same literature and have many ties of kindred—we occupy contiguous territory, bound together by great natural and artificial channels of trade and commerce, and all our domestic interests and foreign relations are closely identified. In looking at all of these elements of unity, it would seem that God intended that we should forever remain an united and powerful and happy people; but the folly and madness of fanaticism and ambition have determined otherwise, and a fierce internecine war is now deluging the richest and most beautiful land of the earth with slaughter and mourning, with poverty and crime. All the curses of fratricidal strife are upon us, for we have put asunder those whom God had joined together! It is not possible in the nature of things that this war of a ruptured brotherhood can ever be settled by arms. There must be some way of reconciling sectional animosities and predjudices or there will forever be war along the extended border. The situation of the two nations requires that they should be warm friends, or they will be the bitterest of enemies. With no local division but an air line there will be thousands of causes to stir up strife between two embittered peoples. There are great questions of trade, commerce, navigation, boundary, foreign alliance, &c., which can only be arranged by negotiation and compromise.

The Northwestern States are bound, together by an identity of interests, and form a vast inland empire. They have increased in population with marvellous rapidity, and have an extent and variety of resources which are unsurpassed by any other section of the globe. Their people are enlightened and industrious, and full of energy and enterprise, and their prosperity and social progress depend upon a free and untrammelled navigation of the Mississippi river and its tributaries, for these are their veins and arteries of national life. Nearly every drop of rain that falls upon the Northwest, and all the waters which gush from its valleys and hills, find their way into the Mississippi; and its people will never consent that those waters shall flow through a hostile country to the sea. This great question can only be settled by negotiation. And so it is with many other great and unadjusted questions. The Gordian knot which bound together the American States, may be untied by wise and skilful diplomacy, but it can never be cut by the sword without the disastrous result of constant war. If there is to be constant war, or even apprehensions of war, both nations must keep up large standing armies, and their coasts and rivers must be defended by numerous forts and immense navies, and the bloody border of more than two thousand miles must be a continuous chain of garrisons and military posts, and often be the scene of fiercer strifes than those which the Percy and Douglas waged for centuries along the Scottish border.

These frequent wars would retard our educational, social, and religious progress, accumulate enormous national debts, cripple the energies of the people by burdensome taxation, bankrupt the national credit and finally destroy our liberties. History in a thousand lessons teaches us that war and standing armies are the implacable enemies of civilization and national liberty, for they inevitable lead to military despotism. Peace is the only means by which republican liberty, with all its blessings, can be secured and perpetuated.

The permanent peace, prosperity, and happiness of both the North and the South, depend upon a close and friendly alliance. Together they must control the destinies of the North American continent. If the ambitious potentates of Europe are ever allowed to obtain a permanent foothold here, and establish their empires, and we form different alliances with them, we at once become involved in all the vexed and intricate questions of the "balance of power," which so often convulse the European nations.—It is the manifest destiny of both sections of this country to stand together against the balance of the world. Like twin sisters, while they dwell apart, they should live in the closest harmony, and with a noble and generous emulation strive to advance and extend the blessings of their Christian civilization and constitutional liberty, and thus fulfil their high destiny and show themselves worthy of the rich and beautiful heritage given to them by God and their fathers. This desirable state of affairs can never be produced by war; but it may be one of the blessed results of *negotiations for peace.*

Mr. Speaker, I now propose to discuss the all-important and sternly practical question, can we "fight out" this war speedily and successfully?—For more than three years we have strained every nerve and put forth every energy; we have fought more than three hundred battles, won much of the *glory* of victory at a fearful cost, and still we have not gained our independence, or even foreign sympathy and recognition. We have struggled as no other nation of the world ever has done. The famous battles of antiquity surrounded as they are with all the splendors of Roman and Grecian eloquence and genius, will not compare for high courage and dauntless heroism with many of the battles fought by our noble army for the sacred soil, and homes, and altars of the South. We have generals who have more than rivalled the fame of Miltiades, and Scipio Africanus, and they have led soldiers more sternly brave and unyielding than the Roman legion or the Spartan phalanx. I admire and honor our soldiers for their chivalrous courage and many deeds of valor; and I love them for their ardent patriotism, their patience in suffering, and their devotion to duty; but they cannot accomplish the salvation of their country. For while they have so often shown themselves *invincible*, they are not *immortal*. They have no Achillian armour to shield themselves from the missiles of death, and there is no human power that can ward off the fatal shafts of disease. Where now are the noble heroes who so often bore their battle-flags to victory, and won so many trophies of triumph?

Many of them lie buried in a foreign land, and the mounds of the battle-field, and the unmarked hillocks beside the hospital, show the last resting places of the brave; and the mourning and desolation of tens of thousands of homes tell us that the loved and gallant ones will never come back again. Most of our citizens, between eighteen and forty-five years of age, have gone to the front. They comprise the energy, industry, strength and high chivalry of the South. Hecatombs after hecatombs have been sacrificed, and still *war, insatiate war*, calls for more victims. It now tears the seventeen year old boy from his mother's arms, and takes the man with a half a century of years upon him from the midst of his helpless and weeping grand children. It is with difficulty that the halt, the lame and the blind can escape its pitiless grasp. And must we, a Christian and civilized people, still bow down with blind idolatry and be crushed by this cruel Juggernaut, and make no efforts to secure an honorable peace? Must we, like the Canaanites, still drive our children through the fires to this insatiate Moloch? Must we forget all the teachings of our holy religion and follow only the example of the untutored barbarian and savage, and thirst for blood like the famished tiger? Must we still celebrate the "dread carnival" of slaughter until our country is made a desert, and our wives, mothers, sisters and children are left amidst the ruins of our homes as victims to the fiendish lusts and passions of the barbarous negro and an infuriated soldiery? Oh! when will our rulers heed again the voice of religion and reason; seek the beautiful paths of peace, and cease to tread the "wine press" of human wrath?

Mr. Speaker, are the resources of our country sufficient to continue this war for many years? We have a remarkably rich and productive land, and formerly it teemed with an overflowing abundance of the necessaries, comforts and luxuries of life. But care and labor are necessary to insure production. A large proportion of the skill, energy and efficient industry of our people has been turned for three years into the channels of war. One fourth of our working slaves have escaped, or have been taken away by the enemy, and the rest have become so demoralized from the want of proper superintendence and discipline, and the prospect of speedy freedom, that their labor is not worth half the value of former years. A large refugee population has crowded into our contracted territory, who add but little to production, and still justice, patriotism and humanity require that they should be cared for and fed. The implements of agriculture have been lessened in quantity and impaired in value so that the efficiency of labor is much diminished. The blockade cuts off nearly all foreign supplies that could relieve the substantial wants of the country. The articles that pass through the lines are principally used for the purposes of war, or serve to gratify the extravagant and luxurious tastes of the rich or feed the hungry and craving appetite of the speculator and extortioner. Our various lines of domestic trade are so completely monopolized by military operations that the necessities of one section cannot be supplied by the surplus productions of another section. A large amount of our richest and most productive territory is now in the possession of the enemy, or so cut off by hostile lines that it can furnish but little assistance to the people who are defending the head and heart of our Confederacy. The inefficiency and carelessness which always attend large government operations, and the imperfect means of collection and transportation have greatly injured and wasted our public stores.

Without foreign commerce and domestic trade, with half of our land and labor gone, with the efficiency of labor greatly diminished, with a largely increased consuming population, with the droughts, the freshets, the raids and war depredations of more than three years, is it surprising that the country is suffering from numerous wants, and looking to the future with fearful apprehensions? This picture is a gloomy one, but still it is truthful. Politicians may indulge in theories and fancies, but the action of statesmen should be influenced by *facts*. If the picture is dark before us, we should endeavor to brighten it. War has cast these gloomy shadows over the land, and *peace* alone can bring the sunlight of prosperity to our suffering country.

Mr. Speaker, there is another consideration connected with this question of "fighting out" the war, which is worthy of serious attention. The intelligence and virtue of the country is daily decreasing with fearful rapidity. Our colleges and school houses are nearly all deserted. The teachers and pupils have quit the beautiful fields of science and literature and are now following the red paths of war, or are sleeping in the quietude of the grave. What are the hopes of the country if these healthful fountains of learning and virtue are long to be sealed? Even the church shows striking signs of decay. The happy throng, that once went up to the altars of the sanctuary are seen no more; but vacant seats, sad faces, tearful eyes, and the habiliments of widowhood and orphanage tell many a tale of sorrow and death. Gentle and beautiful woman, helpless and innocent childhood, and decrepid age still enter the courts of the Lord's house with thanksgiving and praise; but the manly husband, brother and son have gathered at the shrines of human passion and vengeance; and there, without the hallowing influences of home, they are surrounded by all the vices incident to military life. This war has greatly impaired the power and majesty of the *law*. The tribunals of justice can no longer afford complete protection to civil rights, and wrong-doers too often escape just punishment. "Might makes right" is rapidly becoming the supreme law of the land. A spirit of lawlessness and general demoralization is spreading like a contagion through the whole country. The "greed of gain" is making many of our people intensely selfish—blunting the finer sensibilities of our nature—sapping the foundations of moral honesty, and is rapidly filling our nation with swarms of swindlers and extortioners. If this war continues much longer all the boasted intelligence and virtue of the once free and enlightened American people will be gone, and with them will go our liberty and all of those proud national characteristics which once made us the greatest, happiest and most prosperous nation of the earth.

Mr. Speaker, there is another obstacle in the way of our fighting out this war speedily and successfully, to which I will briefly allude. Money has been justly termed one of the sinews of war, and the want of it necessarily induces weakness. The unusually large expenditures of the war have forced the government to resort to the use of an inflated paper currency. Reason and experience both teach us that a paper currency is valueless unless it is founded upon a strong specie basis, or articles of universal commercial value, or upon the substantial wealth of a country, of high and undoubted credit. The gold and silver capital of our country at the commencement of the war was comparatively small, not one-fourth enough to carry on the ordinary business of exchange. The insecurity felt in these times of revolution has withdrawn a large amount of even this small capital from circulation, and driven it to hiding places which can never be reached by the government, so that it can be of little service in sustaining the national credit.

We had several large staple productions which are of almost universal commercial value, but the want of a wise foresight prevented our *rulers* from throwing these products into the markets of the world or putting them into places of security abroad as a foundation of national credit. In the estimation of our *great leaders* secession was peaceable, to be effected without money and without blood. If war did come, it was to be fought out before breakfast, and a fifteen million loan was sufficient to pay the expenses of the affair. Their political prophesies have proved to be untrue, and their financial theories unwise. Tens of thousands of bales of cotton have been unnecessarily burned, or permitted to rot and be wasted from negligence and exposure; and thus in some degree has been frittered away one great element of our wealth and power. Cotton might have been made a powerful king, and an invaluable ally, had large quantities been placed in Europe in sight of the Rothschilds and Barings. But poor "king cotton" was dethroned in his own kingdom by his own people, and now, like the fugitive Stuart, he seeks security in hiding places, and there in darkness and tempest trusts himself to the ocean and finds friends and a refuge only in a foreign land. He has been subjected to deeper humiliation in ministering to the cupidity of Jewish and Gentile speculators. In the hands of the *extortioner* he plays the petty tyrant, grinding the faces of the poor, and wringing the hard earned pittance of the soldier from the hands of his wife for the scanty clothing with which she protects herself and children from the winter's cold. Sometimes like a deserter, he passes through the lines and gives "aid and comfort" to the enemies of his native land. Such is the fate of poor "king cotton," and well may it be said of him, "How art thou fallen, O Lucifer, son of the morning!"

One day	$5 00	Six weeks	$30 00
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The principal basis of a nation's credit is a high and inviolable faith, founded upon the virtue, industry, affection and confidence of its people. Has our government scrupulously kept its plighted faith, and done everything to elevate virtue, stimulate industry and win affection and confidence? Many of its contracts have been set aside or violated. The right of the writ of *habeas corpus*, which for centuries has been held sacred by every one who spoke the English tongue, has been three times unnecessarily suspended, and now the whole country is looking with anxiety and dread for a fourth attack upon this palladium of personal liberty. The conscript law has been enforced with merciless severity, and even women and children have not escaped the rigors of its execution. In a spirit of patriotism the people have toiled on their farms and in their workshops for the public good, and they only ask a just compensation for the surplus products of their labor. This has often been refused, and the fruits of honest industry have been unjustly and harshly impressed. The popular voice and will are disregarded, and in *secret session* the representatives of the people are discussing and acting upon the dearest rights of freemen, and thus seem to be conscious that their deeds are evil. Useless *puppets* and provost guards in every town and almost upon every highway are constantly reminding the people that their former liberties are gone. With a course of conduct like this do our rulers expect that a wronged and oppressed people will rally to them with an ardent patriotism and unyielding devotion? Do they hope that by injustice, deception and the strong arm of military power they can successfully fight out a war professedly begun for equality, justice, truth and liberty? If they do, in my opinion their hopes are as delusive as the wildest dreams of the fanatic and enthusiast. But let them always trust the people, and treat them with justice and proper kindness, and soon a brighter day will dawn upon our dark and gloomy fortunes. Our people are not yet subjugated and never will be until their liberties are destroyed at home. They still have the strength, energy, patriotism and valor to meet the dangers that surround them, and if our rulers will but win their confidence and love, they will still raise their bleeding and oppressed country from the dust, and send her forth upon the high pathway of a glorious destiny.

Mr. Speaker, at the commencement of this revolution we were much encouraged and strengthened by the hopes of speedy foreign recognition. Our leaders prophesied that our staple products were so indispensable to the prosperity of England and France that these great powers would be compelled to take sides with the South, or at least give her the aid of their sympathy and recognition. These vain delusions have long since passed away. The great masses of anti-slavery England and France are our decided enemies, and have furnished much material aid to our Northern foes. The anti-slavery feeling is more fanatical in Europe than it is in New England, and no king could long sit securely on his throne if he were to become the ally of a slave republic. In this controversy Exeter Hall controls the policy of England, and the word *esclavage* would rouse the excitable Frenchman to the madness of revolution. The commercial classes of Europe are greatly interested in a continuance of our struggle. Our gallant privateers have rendered Yankee commerce insecure, and foreign shippers are deriving immense profits from their largely increased carrying trade, and Collie & Co. and others engaged in blockade running give some credit and currency to our cotton bonds and other securities, but all of their sympathy is founded upon the basest selfishness. We now have no hope of foreign aid, and if we *fight out* this war we must do so by our own prowess; and like Charles XII of Sweden, we may win the admiration of the world for obstinate and chivalrous valor, but posterity will award us but little credit for discretion and diplomatic wisdom.

Mr. Speaker, at the beginning of our national troubles we had another well-grounded hope of success, a divided North. A majority of the popular votes at the North was opposed to the election of Mr. Lincoln, and in favor of the constitutional rights of the South. The precipitate action of the cotton States and their subsequent uncompromising policy increased greatly the power of sectional influences at the North, and thus diminished the number of our friends, and swelled the ranks of our enemies. Such has been the policy of the *precipitators* ever since, they have continually aided the Black Republicans in defeating the conservative men of the North. The gallant and liberty loving democracy of the North have had to struggle against fearful odds. In their front were the energy, prestige, and despotic power of the abolition government sustained by bitter sectional prejudices; and in their rear were the fierce batteries of Southern denunciation and uncompromising hatred. They fought a good fight, but were overwhelmed. The "peace men" of the North and South have thus far shared the same fate, produced by the same causes and intrumentalities. The *war men* of both sections claim that the recent elections are public approvals of their policy;—that the great American people have decided for *war, fratricidal war*. I do not believe it—and in the name of truth, patriotism, liberty and humanity I appeal to the august tribunal of the future. When the madness and folly of these evil days shall have passed away, posterity will pronounce a just judgment against the prominent actors in this great national tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, if this war is to be fought out without any negotiations, then the days of slavery are numbered. The Constitution of the United States was the only safe guard of African slavery on this continent. War has broken down that strong bulwark. Prudent negotiation and speedy peace may yet postpone the doom of slavery. It has existed so long in our midst that it has become a part of the framework of Southern society; it is intimately interwoven with our domestic affections and has been of incalculable value to the inferior race. If this institution which has been the growth of centuries is to be suddenly overthrown, its consequences will be very disastrous to the South. It will deprive our people of a large share of their honestly earned property, and prevent the production of those great staples which have been the sources of national and individual wealth, and contributed much to the comforts and necessities of the world. The slave will be taken from under the kind care, control and instructions of his master, and placed in a condition for which he is neither mentally nor morally qualified, and his future history will be more sad and mournful than that of the Indian, as in misfortune and poverty he passes away before the indomitable energy and power of the white man. The white man and the negro can never dwell together as equals. It is contrary to the unchangeable social laws of nature. The princely sons of Japhet may fulfil the voice of prophecy and

(CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE.)

THE DAILY PROGRESS.

VOL. VI. RALEIGH, MONDAY, JAN. 16, 1865 NO. 56

DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

MONDAY, JAN. 16, 1865.

Our Legislature.

Our Legislature will meet to-morrow. The members will return fresh from their constituents, impressed with their views, and we trust determined to reflect them.

This is no time for personal quarrels or political wrangles. It is a time for seriously reflecting upon what is best to be done. The matter of *Peace* is of too serious a nature to be trifled with. The time has come for grave reflection and prompt action. It may be that the present is the last opportunity our Legislature will ever have to interpose in favor of peace; and we beseech the members to look with an eye single to the public good, to ponder well and seriously the condition of affairs, and then act as reason and deliberate judgment direct.

Look at the positions of our armies and of the armies of the enemy. Look at the resources of the two contending parties and their present attitudes. We have fought as a people never fought before. We have longer consolidated against such powerful odds than any people ever did before. With the most skilful leaders and the bravest troops the world has ever known, what is our condition now? What have we gained, or what are we likely to gain? Is it not time to look at matters *as they are*, rather than as we would *wish them to be?* The time for empty boasts and direful threats has passed. Candor must become the rule for action. There is no room for fancy—none for the ideal. We must grapple with facts of stern and terrible import, and reason and common sense should be our guide.

It is useless now to reproach the government with its weakness, its vacillation and its corruptions. It is useless to enquire into the *causes* that have brought us to our present condition. The *facts* are real, plain and palpable, and it is with them we must deal. Let us do so with a candid and comprehensive appreciation of them, as with a great matter that must be met and considered as it is. If we cannot dictate our own terms, is it not the part of prudence and of common sense to avoid, if we can, the absolute dictation of them to us? If by negotiation we can have some voice in the matter, when otherwise we could have none, it would be the height of folly to refuse to negotiate, and it would be a neglect worse than a crime not to endeavor to negotiate.

North Carolina has been engaged in a war into which she was *forced*. From a free, thriving and happy people she has been reduced to comparative poverty, while mourning and lamentations have resounded throughout her borders. As one of the Confederate States she has done her whole duty. But it is now time for her to look to her surroundings and act accordingly. If her Legislature can effect nothing, it can at least call a Convention—not to take the State out of the Confederacy—but that her sovereign voice may be heard in favor of negotiations for an honorable peace. The sword can never bring peace. Lincoln will never treat with Mr. Davis. The States, in their sovereign capacity, North and South, must speak. Any peace thus made by the people themselves through the constitutionally appointed authorities, will be honorable. Tell us not that the voice of a sovereign State may be heard in the disruption of a government and a consequent war, but must not be heard in favor of peace! No such logic need be preached to us. Peace is more desirable than war.

We believe our Legislature can *now* do much towards bringing about an honorable peace. Ere long it may be too late. Sherman's victorious march continues. The enemy swarms upon our own coast, and his cannons are thundering at the gates of Wilmington. The greatest General of the age, with the best and bravest army the sun ever shone upon, is held in the trenches around Richmond and Petersburg. The army of Tennessee is defeated, demoralized. The coils of the fiery serpent are being drawn tighter and faster around us. Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri and Georgia are almost prostrate at the feet of the foe. Everywhere his victorious legions are threatening our destruction. We are contending with the world, and with our own negroes. Can we conquer all, and dictate our own terms? Every principle of policy, of national existence, and of humanity, calls aloud for negotiations.

Ye sticklers for the letter of the Constitution, which *killeth*, and who raise your voices against initiating negotiations for peace, look to the suspension of the *habeas corpus* act, look to a repudiation of one-third of the national currency—look to the broken faith of the nation—look to the many violations of the Constitution under the plea of "military necessity,"—for the purposes of the *war*, and then hang your heads and be silent when a sovereign State's voice is invoked in behalf of *peace!*

Constitutions are made by the people for the government of their servants, not of themselves. In their sovereign capacity the people know no Constitution for their own direction. They can make and unmake, alter and amend constitutions. They can violate no constitution, for *they* are the constitution—they are emphatically a law unto themselves.

We trust that sober reason and sound judgment may prevail in the councils of our General Assembly, and that such measures may be taken as will redound to the honor, prosperity and happiness of the people of the State and of the Confederate States.

From Wilmington.

A private dispatch from Wilmington last Saturday night states that the enemy had landed in considerable force and there had been some fighting during the day. Both parties were entrenching, and heavy fighting was expected to-day, (Sunday.) Telegraphic communication between Wilmington and Fort Fisher had been cut off. We shall probably hear more before going to press.

Members of the Legislature

Who desire the PROGRESS sent to them during the session which commences to-morrow will please call at our office and have their names entered and instruct us where to have the paper left.

Mr. Dick's Speech.

We publish the great speech of R. P. Dick, Esq., in this issue, and ask for it a careful perusal. It stamps the author a statesman and an orator. Extra copies of the *Progress* containing this speech may be had at the office.

If the people of any of the counties of the State have not enough o. *Squires* to manage the rapidly accumulating business of their vicinage, and will only prepare their lists and send them up here, the Legislature which assembles to-morrow, will put them through. We would suggest to the body that it might be a good idea, and save time, just to declare every white man from 1 to 60 a Magistrate. This would include all their friends.

MORE OF THE CHARLOTTE F

The opinion obtains strength that there was some kind of foul play about the Charlotte fire, and that some of the Government officials planned the affair and ordered it to be executed. We are assured that a gentleman of character and position, who was there at the time, avers that he could have put out the fire with a single bucket of water, but that the military guard would let no one do it until the Captain arrived—which Captain, it is said, could not be found. The following explanatory article from the *Bulletin* looks very much like it was dictated by military authority:

The Recent Fire.—We refer to this sad calamity again, for the purpose of revising our previous notice and correcting, as far as possible, errors we were led into by the imperfect statements or opinions obtained through unofficial sources.

We are pleased in being able to state that a large amount of corn, oats and rye, and about 40 hogsheads of sugar have been recovered from the scene of conflagration, which would reduce the aggregate estimate of the loss. The figures put down by us, viz: $20,000,000, was the result of estimates made by several gentlemen, not connected with any of the departments, but who appeared to be well informed upon the subject.—Our estimate was based, not upon what were the cost prices of the articles and materials destroyed, but upon their value at the present time in replacing them.

Another very important matter we think it proper to refer to, is that touching the statement of the loss of life. No evidence of the remains of human bones have been discovered, and we infer, as we expressed the hope, that the two soldiers named were not burned.

The information received touching those who were most conspicuous for their energy in aiding to suppress the spread of the conflagration was very meagre, and even at this late period we could not do justice in a column notice of such persons. One of the gentlemen, Dr. Thompson, of the Medical Purveyor's department, we regret to learn, received a painful fracture of limb during his untiring efforts to save property, by the fall of a bale of cotton.

Perhaps our information relative to the guard refusing admittance to volunteers until instructed to do so, was not correct, as we have investigated the source whence the statement originated, and can find no satisfactory evidence corroborating the statement. Notwithstanding our informants are gentlemen of the highest respectability and never would have propagated such a report, unless they had thought it correct, yet there seems to have been a misapprehension, and in consequence, misapplication of case and locality. We regret, if, as we suppose, injustice has been done, and hope that the investigation progressing will disclose the fact that our information was erroneous.

As soon as the court-martial, convened to investigate all the facts connected with the origin of the fire, losses, &c., shall have concluded their labors, we will take pleasure if they offer them for publication, in giving the facts to the public.

GOV. BROWN AND HIS LEGISLATURE.—A Milledgeville paper of a late date says:

"Gov. Brown has been in this city within a few days past, and will we learn, so soon as the damage done to the State House by the explosion of the magazine—breaking the glass and doing other damage—can be repaired, reconvene the Legislature, to assemble here some time in February next."

The whole country is anxiously looking to Georgia, and we trust the Governor may not be long in convening his Legislature. If they can take any step to bring the war to an honorable termination we hope it will be done speedily.

HOME HORRIBLE.—The Charlotte *Bulletin* of the 12th says:

Austin, a negro blacksmith, and valuable hand, hung himself last evening in Mr. Charles Wilson's carriage shop. When found he was entirely dead.

WAR NEWS.

SECOND ATTACK UPON WILMINGTON.

The enemy appeared at Fort Fisher on Friday and commenced a heavy bombardment. We are glad to see that the Wilmington Press is confident of our ability to land them out. The *Carolinian* of Saturday says:

Tuesday has renewed his bombardment of Fort Fisher. The sullen booming of his cannon can be distinctly heard on our streets, but there is no perceptible excitement among our people, who pursue their ordinary avocations as if the formidable armament of the enemy was at anchor quietly in the Potomac, or elsewhere, and not in line of battle abreast of our Forts. The reason of this universal tranquility and hopefulness is at hand, if we would choose to divulge it.—One reason, however, may be given, and it is this: the enemy has surprised no one, this time. We expected "Butler's Second Advent," at an early day, and warned our readers of the fact. True, we have been somewhat surprised at the summary decapitation of the Beast, and at his disappearance from the Lincoln military world without affording him time to utter the simple—but comprehensive prayer, of the sin-convicted Publican. The Beast was such a congenial spirit, such a bright transcript of Yankee character and animus, against our people, that we thought whosoever might be dismissed the Yankee service, the Beast should be retained. But we have been mistaken, and Butler has gone the way of all Lincoln's tools, when they have served his purpose he is thrown out of the shed to rot in the cold blasts of Lowell.

The armament now employed against us, that by land service, is under the command of his successor, Gen. Ord, an officer of some distinction, who commanded one of Gen. McClellan's corps in the army of the Potomac, during the campaign of 1862, around Richmond; or under the command of one of his Lieutenants, by the name of Terry, of whose antecedents we know nothing at all. Gen. Ord is an old army officer. Terry may be anything or nothing, for we do not know, or care. All we care to know is that the other, or both, will get a good thrashing when they are at Fort Fisher, and that their overthrow this time, will be more signal and decisive than their recent repulse from our shores. The gallant and veteran Bragg is on the ground commanding the land forces, and the gallant Whiting will be found in command of those lands which have become instinct with a spirit of undying resistance, under the inspiration of his genius and skill. May God grant that his life may be spared to witness the triumph which assuredly awaits him when the conflict before Fisher ends, as it must, in the discomfiture of the enemy.—It would be imprudent to enter into details in the present situation of affairs. Our readers must therefore be contented with what we can reveal to them without detriment to the cause in which we have enlisted. The enemy appeared in large force off Fisher on Thursday night—say about fifty ships—and commenced to bombard the Fort early in the day, on Friday. He has also landed some troops, which are now on our soil, and will, no doubt, to-day, try the issue of battle with our forces. At present, (8½ P. M., Friday,) the bombardment of the Fort goes on but we are prepared, humanly speaking, to leave the issue with God. The only casualty we heard of thus far is reported in another place.

The *Journal* of the same day says:

We learn that about eleven o'clock on Thursday night a fleet of over sixty vessels made its appearance off our coast opposite Battery Gatlin, which is some five miles above Fort Fisher and near the head of the Sound. Heavy guns were heard yesterday morning in that direction, no doubt intended to cover the landing of troops which was commenced about daylight, and before 9 o'clock a brigade had been thrown on shore, and they were still landing. We are not yet apprised of the probable numbers of the enemy's land force, or of its composition, nor under whose command it is;—not Butler's probably—certainly not, if the report of his removal be true. One rumor says that Gen. Terry is in command. Another says that Weitzel is. Porter is no doubt in command of the naval part of the expedition, and the whole is no doubt made simultaneously with an advance by Sherman upon some point in South Carolina.

There is comparatively little excitement in town. Troops have been sent to the proper points and may, ere this, be engaged with the enemy. Our military leaders are at their posts and we may look for some sharp work.

Chagrined by the ridicule cast upon the late fiasco the enemy will probably make a desperate effort to redeem their credit. Porter, we think, will be especially desperate, since, after casting all the blame for the late failure upon Butler, he will be in danger of having it fall back upon himself.

After all, the movement here at this time is a secondary and merely co-operative one, intended to facilitate the advance of Sherman.

At the date of the last advices last night no infantry fighting had taken place. Communication was open.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF GEN. LEVENTHROPE.

HEAD QUARTERS, Kinston, N. C., December 28, 1864.

Major J. C. McRae, A. A. G., &c.:

MAJOR—I have the honor to report to you that having learned from Col. Armistead of an expedition in force made by the enemy on the Roanoke river, I reinforced his right at Hamilton, with the 68th N. C., and ordered Col. Anderson's Reg't of Junior Reserves from Weldon. I proceeded at the same time, with Col. Whitford's Regiment, the 67th N. C., from Kinston, and reached Hamilton on the 18th inst.

I found the enemy advancing slowly up the river in gunboats and launches, and removing the torpedoes as they advanced. There is good reason to believe that three boats were sunk in the advance. I am warranted in saying that two were undoubtedly destroyed.

It becomes evident that the object of the enemy was to secure a landing within Conoho creek, and I determined that Poplar Point would be the place selected; I therefore sent some infantry to attack the launches as they came up the river. They succeeded in firing a volley from ambush, and apparently killed and wounded the crew of one entire launch. Two other launches surrendered to the attacking party, but the company of the 67th engaged was driven from the prizes by volleys of grape from the gun boats.—Capt. Cogdell, of the 67th, deserves credit for the punishment inflicted on the enemy in this attack. As the enemy still advanced, I ordered Colonel Broadfoot to proceed to Poplar Point with a body of infantry and dispute the landing. I also ordered Col. Whitford, with his regiment, to the landing, and a section of Parrott guns, from Capt. Dixon's battery. The enemy came up on the 20th, and made an effort to land.—The skirmishers were easily driven to their gunboats. A brisk engagement then took place with the gun-boats. We attacked them with infantry and artillery, and forced them to withdraw a mile after three hours hard fighting. On the 22d another attempt was made to land, which was repulsed.

The enemy was driven off the evening of the 23d. Col. Whitford dashed at the boats with his regiment and fought them for four miles with great determination. The conduct of this brave and excellent officer is worthy of the highest commendation, and I deem it no more than justice in bringing it to the notice of my superiors. I regret to state that Col. Whitford was severely wounded. In the former advance of the enemy, which occured immediately subsequent to the attack on Bellfield, much credit is due to Capts. Brown and Pitt, the former of the 6th N. C. cavalry, the latter commanding an unattached company, for the gallantry and success with which they fought and detained the enemy, at every possible point until reinforcements came up. Capt. Dixon's battery, in the late advance, also did good service, and more particularly the section commanded by Lieut. Jones, which first engaged the enemy. A sunken boat, whose spars I saw myself, indicate very well the accuracy and success of the former.

I have the honor to be, Major,
Very respectfully,
Your ob't serv't,
(Signed) C. LEVENTHROPE,
Brig. Gen.

DEFENCE OF COLUMBIA.

The Columbia S. C. *Guardian*, of the 9th says:

Mayor Goodwyn has with commendable promptness called a public meeting to-day at 12 m., to consider the matter of the city defences, and fully to organize the effort to make them impregnable. Nature has done much for our protection. Let us, as the accomplished Professor Nott used to say to his *belles lettres* classes, "follow nature with selection." Now let the required labor be immediately afforded, and the good work go forward.

Another matter of vital importance to the success of our cause in this military department will be brought to the attention of the meeting. On every account it is desirable that the meeting shall fully represent the intelligence, character, patriotism and manhood of the whole community.

[Nothing will fortify or save Columbia, or South Carolina, but an army that can whip Sherman's.—ED. PROGRESS.]

SHERMAN'S BONOR.

The Charleston *Mercury* of Friday says:

"There was no firing yesterday, with the exception of a few guns to bring the flag of truce steamers to the anchorage ground.

About 250 refugees from Savannah, including men, women and children, were delivered.—They nearly all concur in the statement that the general treatment of the inhabitants of Savannah by the Yankees has been mild. They say that Sherman has with Foster's reinforcements, 80,000 men, and that he began his movement against Branchville and Augusta on Wednesday.

The privates speak of wreaking their vengeance on South Carolina; but the officers say that their actions will depend upon the amount of opposition they may encounter. They declare that if they should have hard fighting to do and are successful, they will not attempt to restrain their men."

[Can Georgia and South Carolina militia resist such a force, under such a leader? We hardly think so.]

THE FIRE IN SALISBURY.—We copy the following from the *Watchman* of last Saturday:

About 7 o'clock yesterday morning, Mr. J. H. Ennis' building (better known as the old George Brown house) was discovered to be on fire. It had made, comparatively, little progress, when first discovered, but owing to the very combustible nature of the buildings, all efforts to arrest the flames proved useless until the houses from Mr. Wm. Murphy's brick row, following the street around to that of Jas. H. Ennis', (now used as a Commissary depot,) were laid in ashes. Several of the rooms consumed were occupied by officers of the government as Commissary and Quartermaster depots, workshops, &c., but little portable property, either belonging to the government or individuals, was destroyed.—Mr. Carncross who occupied rooms in the Ennis building as store and residence, lost everything. Mr. Ennis himself who was carrying on a shoe factory for the Government, lost between eight and ten thousand dollars worth of leather. The Government's loss in leather, tools, &c., probably amount to eighty thousand dollars. Its loss in the Post Quartermaster's department, was comparatively small.

The owners of the buildings consumed, Messrs. Ennis, Fraley, and McNeely & Young, and the Messrs. Hall are the principal sufferers.

The Government loss of leather in Mr. Ennis' factory, was owing to the fact, that the fire occurred in a room immediately under the leather, rendering it absolutely impossible to remove it.

The Commissary lost nothing except what was appropriated by rogues in the confusion. The Q. M's loss was greatest in this way, also; though his private loss was considerable.

The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. It originated in a store room of the Ennis building occupied by Mr. Smithdeal. Mr. Smithdeal was absent and his store was closed, but the miserable miscreant who perpetrated the deed, it is believed, entered this room, set fire to the building, and reclosed the doors. No one has, as yet, been identified as the guilty person, but strong suspicions rest upon several who are universally odious to the community, as well as disloyal to the South.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

FURNISHED BY THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 18[illegible] by J. S. Thrasher, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States of the Northern District of Georgia.

Later from the North.

RICHMOND, Jan. 13.—Northern papers of the 11th received.

The report of Butler's removal is confirmed.

A public meeting was held in Philadelphia on the 7th to devise means for the relief of the suffering inhabitants of Savannah. A committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions to purchase and send a ship load of provisions to that city.

Thomas is concentrating his army at East Port.

The "Herald" advocates a union of the armies, North and South, to enforce the Monroe doctrine on the whole extent of this continent against England, France and Spain.

RICHMOND, Jan. 14.—Northern papers of the 12th received.

The "American" says Butler's farewell address to the army of the James is in excessive bad taste and reads more like a Mexican pronunciamento than an address of a New England General. His removal, it is said, was made by the President at the request of Grant. Butler tells the troops in his address that he has refused to obey orders to sacrifice their lives and that blood does not stain his garments.

The Missouri State Convention, by a vote of 60 to [illegible] has passed an ordinance of emancipation abolishing slavery in that State.

Burnside has tendered his resignation.

The Galt House at Louisville, a well known Hotel, was destroyed by fire.

A Union State Convention assembled at Nashville, with Hon. Sam. Rodgers, of Knox county, President. A slight disagreement arose on the basis of voting. It was finally agreed that each county to have one vote for every hundred cast against secession in 1861. This was carried amid intense excitement and the convention adjourned.

A telegram confirms the report of the evacuation of Van Buren by the Federal forces.

Another telegram says Fort Smith is not evacuated. Gold 210.

Congressional—Arrest of the Hon. Henry S. Foote.

RICHMOND, Jan. 13.—The Senate was in secret session to-day. The House amendments to the Senate bill to provide for the clothing of officers of the army and navy was concurred in.

The bill increasing the number of Midshipmen and several other naval bills from the Senate were passed. Senate bill providing for the transmission of newspapers to officers, privates and musicians in the army; also House bill providing for the payment of the interest due the Cherokee nation on certain State bonds, the payment of which was assumed by the Confederate States. The exemption bill was taken up and further considered until adjournment.

At one o'clock the President sent in a message announcing the arrest of the Hon. Henry S. Foote, of Northern Virginia, while endeavoring to pass our pickets on his way to the enemy. Accompanying the message was a note to the President from the Secretary of War, which says that no special instructions were given for such arrest.

The Provost Marshal at Fredericksburg, who made the arrest, says in a telegram, dated the 12th: "I have arrested Hon. Henry S. Foote at Occoquan, on his way to Washington for the purpose of negotiating a peace, he avers. I have paroled him to await instructions."

On motion of Mr. Clarke the matter was referred to a select committee of four.

RICHMOND, Jan. 13.—Ex-Gov. Foote has been arrested at Occoquan, Prince William county. The charge upon which the arrest was made is not made public, but it is understood to be because he was without instructions from the authorities in Richmond.

Mr. Foote has not occupied his seat in the House of Representatives for nearly three weeks. He went towards the Potomac for the purpose of attending his family across, that they might reach their home in Nashville.

RICHMOND, Jan. 14.—The Senate was in secret session to-day. The House resumed the consideration of the exemption bill. The clause of the present law, relating to ministers of the gospel was read and adopted.

Destructive Fire in Salisbury.

SALISBURY, Jan. 13.—A fire was discovered here this morning about seven o'clock in a vacant store room on the "Geo. Brown building" now the property of J. H. Ennis. It spread with great rapidity to the right, left and rear, enveloping almost every wood building in the block. Murphy's three story brick store arrested the flames on the south and Ennis' brick building now occupied by the Commissary Department, arrested it on the north side. The buildings of the Quartermaster's Department were destroyed, and with them some property—but how much is not yet known. The loss of movable property, either public or private, is not very great. The fire is believed to be the work of an incendiary.

LOOK UP.—Here is a moral under the guise of a fable: "A young man once picked up a sovereign in the road. Ever afterwards as he walked along, he kept his eyes fixed on the ground, in hopes of finding another. And in the course of a long life he did pick up at different times, a goodly number of coins, gold and silver. But all these years while he was looking for them, he saw not that the heavens were bright above him, and nature beautiful around. He never once allowed his eyes to look up from the mud and filth in which he sought the treasure; and when he died, a rich old man, he only knew this fair earth of ours as a dirty road, in which to pick up money as you walk along."

WOMEN'S HOPE.—In early youth perhaps women said to themselves, "I shall be happy when I have a husband to love me best of all;" then, when the husband was too careless, "My child will comfort me;" then, through the mother's watching and toil, "My child will repay me all when it grows up." And at last, after the long journey of years have been traveled through, the mother's heart is weighed down by a heavier burden, and her only hope is in heaven.

Gen. Joseph E. Johnson was in Charleston on Thursday last, the guest of Governor Magrath.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

$50 REWARD.

ON SATURDAY NIGHT LAST, SOMEWHERE BETWEEN the Court House in the City of Raleigh and the residence of Dr. Cook, I lost my pocket book, containing several hundred dollars in Confederate money among which were three or four $100 bills. The pocket book is a small leather one, with a catch. It also contained several papers. I will pay the above reward of $50 for the recovery of the pocket book and its contents. Jan 16-3t. A. H. GREEN.

WANTED!

A CLERK FOR THE BOYDEN HOUSE, SALISBURY. Address, W. H. HOWERTON. Jan 16-d3t